(e) if so, the rate of interest thereon;

(f) whether banks take steps to indentify the heirs of such depositors in cases where no claims are made; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN): (a) to (c) The power to settle claims relating to accounts belonging to depositors who have died, has been delegated by the banks to the branches, regional offices and zonal offices. Such powers are exercised by these officers on the basis of instructions issued by the concerned bank regarding the procedural requirements to be followed for settlement of such cases. RBI has reported that information relating to depositors who have died and their claims have remained unpaid is not compiled by them. Details relating to unclaimed deposits more than 10 years old is, however, compiled by them on the annual basis.

(d) and (e) The rate of interest paid when such claims are settled is the rate applicable to type of account involved . However, some banks pay interest at the savings deposits interest rate on current accounts in the name of depositors who have died, as and when claims relating to such deposits are settled.

(f) and (g) It is for the legal successors of depositors, who have died to inform the banks of the death of the depositors and to file claims in relation to the balances standing at the credit of the accounts of depositors who have died. Where the amount is 'either or survivor' account or where the depositor has made a nomination in respect of his bank account no difficulty is experienced by the bank taking action following the death of the depositor concerned.

Sharing of Central Taxes with the States

*330. SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to legislate on the proposal to create a Single Divisible Pool for Central Taxes with 29 per cent share of States in view of the Tenth Finance Commission's recommendations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments have been consulted in this regard;

(d) if so, the reaction of the State Governments thereto; and

(e) what is Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Tenth Finance Commission had recommended an alternative scheme of sharing of resources between the Centre and the States to be introduced with effect from Ist April, 1996 under which 29% of the gross proceeds of *almost all* Central taxes is to be assigned to the States.

The scheme envisages that 26% share in the gross proceeds of all Central taxes (excluding Stamp Duty Excise Duty on medicinal/toilet items, Central Sales Tax, Consignment tax and Surchargs) is to be assigned to the States in lieu of existing share in Income Tax and Basic/Special Excise Duties and Grants in lieu of Tax on Railway Passenger fares. In addition 3% share in the gross proceeds of all Central taxes (excluding Stamp Duty, Excise Duty on medicinal/toilet items, Central Sales Tax, Consignment tax and Surcharge) is to be assigned to the States in lieu of existing share in Additional Excise Duties in lieu of Sales tax on tobacco, cotton and sugar.

Some States had requested for higher percentage of Devolution. On the basis of a concensus reached in the Third

Meeting of the Inter-State Council held on July 17, 1997, it was decided to accept the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission in this regard subject to certain modifications. However, the Lok Sabha was dissolved before the Constitution Amendment Bill could be introduced.

The present Government has ratified the decision taken by the previous Governfment. This was announced in FM's Budget Speech. the Constitution Amendment Bill was introduced in Lok Sabha on 14th July, 1998. Hon'ble Speaker has referred the Bill to the Standing Committee on Finance.

रुपये का अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मूल्यांकन

*333. **श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावत:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में भारतीय रुपये को अवमूल्यन से बचाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं;

(ख) वर्ष 1971 को आधार वर्ष मानते हुए भारतीय रुपये की क्रय शक्ति अक्टूबर, 1998 तक वर्ष-वार कितनी-कितनी थी; और

(ग) भारतीय रुपये के अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मूल्यांकन हेतु क्या मापदंड निर्धारित किया गया है तथा क्या भारतीय क्रय शक्ति भी एक आधार है; यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवन्त सिन्हा): (क) और (ग) भारत में रुपए की विनिमय दर बाजार द्वारा निर्धारित होती है तथा भुगतान संतुलन के चालू और पूंजी दोनों खातों पर विदेशी मुद्रा की आवा-जाही की प्रवृत्तियों के साथ-साथ अल्प-कालिक सट्टे की स्थिति द्वारा प्रभावित होती है। विदेशी मुद्राओं की तुलना में रुपए में उतार-चढ़ाव भी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा बाजारों में इन मुद्राओं के उतार-चढ़ाव को कुछ सीमा तक प्रतिबिम्बित करता है।

विनिमय दर उतार-चढ़ाव का सरकार तथा भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (आर० बी० आई०) दोनों द्वारा बारीकी से अनुवीक्षण किया जाता है। भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक, जब कभी आवश्यक हो, विदेशी विनिमय बाजारों में हस्तक्षेप करता है और रुपए पर अनिश्चित दबावों को रोकने तथा विदेशी मुद्रा बाजार की सुव्यवस्थित स्थितियां सुनिश्चत करने के लिए उपयुक्त मौद्रिक और अन्य उपाय लागू करता है। इन उपायों से बाह्य दबावों की अवधि के दौरान रुपए के विदेशी मूल्य में उचित स्थिरता को बनाए रखने और भारत की विदेशी प्रतिस्पर्द्धात्मकता के संरक्षण और उसमें सुधार लाने के अनुकूल विनिमय दर के स्तर को बनाए रखने में मदद मिली है।

(ख) 1971 के आधार पर औद्योगिक कामगारों के लिए उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक (सी०पी० आई०) के रूप में, 1971 से अक्टूबर, 1998 तक रुपए के घरेलू मूल्य की सूचना संलग्न विवरण में दी गई है।

विवरण

1971 के आधार पर पैसे में रुपए का मूल्य

वर्ष/महीना	सी०पी०आई० (आई०डब्ल्यू०) 1971 पर आधारित	रुपए का मूल्य (पैसे में)
1971	100	100.00
1972	106	94.26
1973	124	80.46
1974	160	62.58
1975	169	59.21
1976	156	64.15
1977	169	59.21
1978	173	57.73
1979	184	54.34
1980	205	48.72
1981	232	43.08
1982	259	38.54
1983	285	35.04
1984	306	32.66
1985	322	31.08
1986	348	28.74
1987	378	26.43
1988	414	24.14
1989	444	22.54
1990	483	20.70
1991	550	18.18
1992	615	16.26
1993	654	15.29
1994	719	13.91
1995	794	12.59